1 <u>CLAIM AMENDMENTS</u>

2 <u>Listing of Claims:</u>

3 <u>What is claimed, is</u>

4 1. (currently amended) <u>A network</u> ~~Network~~ traffic control unit, comprising<u>:</u>

5 • a filter unit ~~(51)~~ for intercepting messages

6 • relating to peer-to-peer application,

7 • from a network line ~~(3)~~,

8 • irrespective of destination,

9 • a control logic ~~(52)~~ that is configured for managing a request represented by an intercepted

10 message subject to its content and subject to peering specific knowledge the network traffic

11 control unit ~~(5)~~ provides,

12 • which request to be managed is a connect request issued from a peer node and directed to

13 another peer node.

14 2. (currently amended) <u>A network</u> ~~Network~~ traffic control unit according to claim 1,

15 wherein the network traffic control unit ~~(5)~~ is prepared to communicate according to a

16 peer-to-peer application protocol.

17 3. (currently amended) <u>A network</u> ~~Network~~ traffic control unit according to claim 2,

18 wherein the network traffic control unit ~~(5)~~ is prepared to apply the peer-to-peer application

19 protocol for managing connect requests.

20 4. (currently amended) <u>A network</u> ~~Network~~ traffic control unit according to ~~any one of the claims~~

21 <u>claim 1</u> ~~to 3~~, wherein the network traffic control unit ~~(5)~~ is prepared to communicate according to

22 a protocol different to the peer-to-peer application protocol.

1   5. (currently amended) A network ~~Network~~ traffic control unit according to claim 4,

2   wherein the network traffic control unit ~~(5)~~ is prepared to apply the protocol different to the

3   peer-to-peer application protocol for managing query requests.

4   6. (currently amended) A network ~~Network~~ traffic control unit according to claim 1 ~~any one of~~

5   ~~the preceding claims~~, wherein the peering specific knowledge comprises information on

6   peer-to-peer connections the network traffic control unit ~~(5)~~ is currently aware of.

7   7. (currently amended) A network ~~Network~~ traffic control unit according to claim 1 ~~any one of~~

8   ~~the preceding claims~~, wherein the peering specific knowledge comprises information on peer

9   nodes associated to the network traffic control unit ~~(5)~~.

10   8. (currently amended) A network ~~Network~~ traffic control unit according to claim 1 ~~any one of~~

11   ~~the preceding claims~~, wherein the peering specific knowledge comprises an index that allocates

12   keys representing data files for download to network traffic control units.

13   9. (currently amended) A network ~~Network~~ traffic control unit according to claim 1 ~~any one of~~

14   ~~the preceding claims~~, wherein the peering specific knowledge comprises an index that allocates

15   peer nodes to keys representing data files for download.

16   10. (currently amended) A network ~~Network~~ traffic control unit according to claim 1 ~~any one of~~

17   ~~the preceding claims~~, wherein the control logic ~~(53)~~ is configured for implementing a set of rules

18   for deriving keys from intercepted query requests.

19   11. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ for controlling traffic on a network, comprising:

20   •   receiving messages related to peer-to-peer application, intercepted by a filter unit from a

21   network line ~~(3)~~, irrespective of the messages' destination,

22   •   managing a request represented by an intercepted message subject to its content and subject

23   to peering specific information,

1   •   wherein the request to be managed is a connect request issued from a peer node and directed

2   to another peer node.

3   12. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to claim 11, comprising

4   dropping the intercepted message.

5   13. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to claim 12,

6   wherein managing the connect request is subject to existing connections the network traffic

7   control unit is aware of.

8   14. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to claim 13,

9   wherein no message is sent to the addressee of the intercepted connect request when a connection

10   is already established that can serve or be extended to serve the requesting peer node.

11   15. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to ~~any one of the claims~~ claim 12 ~~to 14~~,

12   comprising sending a connect request to the originator of the intercepted connect request in

13   response to the intercepted connect request.

14   16. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to ~~one of the claims~~ claim 12, ~~13 or 15~~,

15   comprising sending a connect request to the addressee of the intercepted connect request.

16   17. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to ~~one of the claims~~ claim 12, ~~13 or 15~~,

17   comprising sending a connect request to the addressee of the intercepted connect request

18   pretending the originator of the intercepted connect request is sending the connect request.

19   18. (currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ according to ~~one of the claims~~ claim 12 ~~to 15~~,

20   comprising

21   sending a connect request to a peer node other than the addressee of the intercepted connect

22   request.

1   19. (currently amended) A method Method according to one of the claims claim 12 to 15,

2   comprising

3   sending a connect request to another network traffic control unit (5).

4   20. (currently amended) A method Method according to claim 15 in combination with any one of

5   the claims claim 16 to 19, sending the connect request to another party than the originator of the

6   intercepted connect request once the originator has accepted the connect request from the

7   network traffic control unit directed to the originator.

8   21. (currently amended) A method Method according to any one of the preceding claims claim

9   11 to 20, wherein a request to be managed is a data file query issued by a peer node.

10   22. (currently amended) A method Method according to claim 21,

11   wherein managing the query request is subject to an index that allocates keys representing data

12   files for download to network traffic control units.

13   23. (currently amended) A method Method according to claim 21 or claim 22,

14   wherein managing the query request is subject to an index that allocates peer nodes to keys.

15   24. (currently amended) A method Method according to any one of the claims claim 21 to 23,

16   comprising deriving one or more keys from the content of the query request.

17   25. (currently amended) A method Method according to claim 24, comprising

18   directing a request to one or more remote network traffic control units that are allocated to the

19   derived keys according to the key - network traffic control unit index.

20   26. (currently amended) A method Method according to claim 25, comprising

21   receiving a list of peer nodes that are allocated to the keys, from the remote network traffic

22   control unit.

1   27. (currently amended) A method Method according to claim 26, comprising

2   sending a hit message to the querying peer node.

3   28. (currently amended) A method Method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim

4   11 ~~to 27~~, comprising:

5   • administering a key - peer node index for some keys, and

6   • providing other network traffic control units on request with the knowledge which peer nodes

7   are allocated to a requested key according to the key - peer node index.

8   29. (currently amended) A method Method according to claim 28,

9   wherein administering the key - peer node index comprises removals of entries.

10   30. (currently amended) A method Method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim

11   11 ~~to 29~~, comprising:

12   • monitoring hit messages sent from an associated peer node,

13   • deriving one or more keys from the content of a hit message,

14   • allocating the sending peer node to the derived keys, and

15   • storing the key - peer node relation in a key - peer node index.

16   31. (currently amended) A network comprising:

17   • at least one group ~~(1, 2, 4)~~ of peer nodes,

18   • a network line ~~(3)~~ serving as ingress/egress line for ~~this peer~~ said at least one group ~~(1, 2, 4)~~,

19   and

20   • a network traffic control unit ~~(5)~~ according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 10~~,

21   intercepting messages from the network line.

22   32. (currently amended) A computer program element comprising computer program code

23   which, when loaded in a processor unit of a network traffic control unit, configures the processor

24   unit for performing a method as claimed in ~~any one of claims~~ claim 11 ~~to 30~~.